Health Physics Enrollments and Degrees Survey, 2004 Data

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SURVEY UNIVERSE

The survey includes degrees granted between September 1, 2003 and August 31, 2004. Enrollment information refers to the fall term 2004. Thirty-one academic programs were included in the survey universe with 28 of the 31 responding. One new program was included in the 2004 survey. Three programs included in the 2003 survey were either discontinued or out-of-scope and not included in 2004 survey. This year the survey data includes enrollments of junior and senior undergraduate students and graduate students, plus data by degree level on post-graduation status.

DEGREE DATA

Bachelor's Degrees. The number of B.S. degrees granted in 2004 by health physics, medical health physics, and other health physics option programs was only two less than in 2003 and remained much higher than in 2000 through 2002. (See Table 1.) Health physics programs accounted for 83% of all B.S. degrees. (See Table 2.)

Graduate Degrees. In 2004, the number of master's degrees granted and the number of doctorate degrees granted both decreased from 2003. (See Table 1.) The number of master's degrees and doctorate degrees granted in 2004 were both at the lowest level reported since the survey began in the mid 1970s. Health physics programs accounted for 77% of the master's degrees and 100% of the doctorate degrees. (See Table 2.)

Table 1. Health Physics Degrees and Enrollments, 1998-2004

	Degrees		
Year	B.S.	M.S.	Ph.D.
2004	54	64	14
2003	56	73	25
2002	41	76	20
2001	37	71	23
2000	33	79	24
1999	55	115	22
1998	51	118	26

The data reflect the update of the survey universe of health physics programs that was done in 2002.

Table 2. Health Physics Degrees by Curriculum, 2004

Curriculum	B.S.	M.S.	Ph.D.
Health Physics Program	45	49	14
Medical Health Physics	0	12	0
Other Health Physics Option	9	3	0

ENROLLMENTS AND SHORT-TERM OUTLOOK FOR DEGREE TRENDS

In 2004, the enrollment of junior and senior undergraduate students increased for the second year and was 60% higher than in 2002. The increasing enrollment indicates that the number of bachelor's degrees granted is likely to start increasing in 2005.

The enrollment of graduate students also increased for the second year and was 15% to 20% higher than graduate enrollments during 2000 through 2002. The increasing enrollment indicates that the number of graduate degrees should begin increasing in the next year or two.

POST-GRADUATION STATUS DATA

Data on post-graduation status was not collected in 2003. Comparing the 2004 to the 2002 post-graduation data indicates, in general, a fairly similar distribution by type of employment or continued study for each of the degree levels. (See Table 3.) Continued study is still the largest post-degree activity for the B.S. graduates and medical facility employment the largest for M.S. graduates.

The relative number of B.S. degree graduates reporting continued study increased somewhat over 2002 as did the number entering active duty in the U.S. military. The number of master's degree graduates entering active duty in the U.S. military and obtaining employment in nuclear utilities increased somewhat over 2002. However, the number of graduates hired by nuclear utilities was still quite small.

Table 3. Post-Graduation Status Data, 2004

	B.S. degree	M.S. degree	Ph.D. degree
Continued Study	20	11	2
Academic Employment	2	3	2
Federal Government Employment	2	7	1
DOE Contractor Employment	0	4	1
State and Local Government Employment	0	1	0
Medical Facility Employment	0	15	4
Nuclear Utility Employment	0	4	0
Other Business Employment	6	2	1
Foreign (non-U.S.) Employment	0	0	0
U.S. Military, active duty	7	6	0
Other Employment	1	1	0
Still Seeking Employment	1	0	0
Not reported	15	10	3
Totals	54	64	14

Table 4. Health Physics Degrees, 2004, by Academic Institution

DOE NEST F&S Status as of March 2005				Degrees, September 1, 2003 - August 31, 2004		
Fellowship	Scholarship	Name of Institution	State	B.S.	M.S.	Ph.D.
		San Diego State University	CA	0	3	0
yes		Colorado State University	CO	0	4	1
		Georgetown University	DC	0	4	0
yes	yes	University of Florida	FL	0	5	1
yes	yes	Georgia Institute of Technology	GA	0	1	0
yes	yes	Idaho State University	ID	1	3	0
		Illinois Institute of Technology	IL	0	5	0
		University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	IL	1	0	1
yes	yes	Purdue University	IN	6	2	2
		Louisiana State University	LA	0	1	0
yes	yes	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	MA	0	1	0
yes	yes	University of Massachusetts, Lowell	MA	1	5	1
		University of Maine	ME	2	1	0
yes	yes	University of Michigan, Ann Arbor	MI	2	4	2
yes	yes	University of Missouri, Columbia	MO	0	2	0
		Thomas Edison State College	NJ	7	0	0
yes	yes	University of New Mexico	NM	0	2	0
		University of Nevada, Las Vegas	NV	4	4	0
yes	yes	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	NY	9	1	1
yes	yes	Ohio State University	OH	0	2	0
yes	yes	Oregon State University	OR	4	3	0
	yes	Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania	PA	3	0	0
yes	yes	Clemson University	SC	0	2	0
yes	yes	University of Tennessee, Knoxville	TN	4	1	0
yes		Vanderbilt University	TN	0	1	0
yes	yes	Texas A&M University, College Station	TX	8	4	3
		University of Utah	UT	0	1	1
		Washington State University Tri-Cities	WA	0	0	0
		Estimates for 3 non-responding programs		*2*	*2*	*1*
		TOTALS:		**54**	**64**	**14**
		By Curriculum:				
		Health Physics Program		45	49	14
		Medical Health Physics		0	12	0
		Other Health Physics Option		9	3	0

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